

Remarks

The above-referenced patent application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action, dated **March 23, 2005**, in which claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Doiron (US Patent 5,968,197 hereinafter “Doiron”). In response, Applicants and the Examiner conducted an Examiner Interview on June 7, 2005. The substance of the discussions between Applicants and the Examiner during the Interview will be captured in an Examiner Interview summary to be submitted by the Examiner.

Current Status of Claims:

With this amendment, claims 1-13 and 15-24 remain pending. Applicants have canceled claim 14 and offer to amend claims 1, 7, 13 and 15-18 as presented above. Support for these amendments can be found in the original specification, claims and/or figures. In this regard, no new matter has been introduced.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):

Applicants thank the Examiner for agreeing during the Interview that claims 1, 7, 13 and 18, as amended above, are not anticipated by the prior art of record (Doiron). In addition, Applicants note that claims 2-6, 8-12, 15-17 and 19-24 each depend from one of independent claims 1, 7, 13 or 18. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of independent claims 1, 7, 13, and 18 and dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, 15-17 and 19-24.

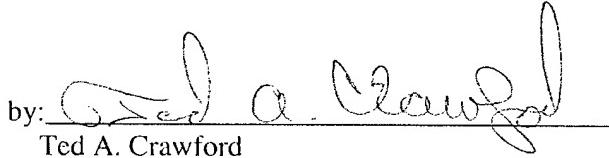
Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-13 and 15-24, as selectively amended, are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. *The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.*

Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Solomon, et al.

Date: 10/13/05

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